

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1217

By Beck

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the Stratford High School boys' basketball team, TSSAA Class AA State Boys' Basketball Championship Semi-Finalist.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize and applaud those successful high school sports teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors for this State; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable group of athletes is the Stratford High School boys' basketball team, which finished the season as a semi-finalist in the 2018 Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Class AA State Boys' Basketball Championship; and

WHEREAS, competing in state-level tournaments is achieved only through hard work, dedication, and the ability to work together as a team and excel with a cooperative spirit, and the Stratford Spartans exhibited each of these rare qualities to the finest degree; and

WHEREAS, playing at the Murphy Center on the campus of Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, the Spartans advanced from the first round with a 78-55 win over Tyner Academy and then faced Knoxville Fulton High School in the tournament semi-final; and

WHEREAS, though the Spartans came up short of winning the State Championship, their hard work, determination, and overall athletic prowess are a credit not only to Stratford High School but to all of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Spartans' season concluded with an impressive district record of 8-3 and an overall record of 22-7; and

WHEREAS, the members of this magnificent team are Jahari Reed, Keontai Windrow, Kevonte Boyd, Harold Suggs, Tasan Coleman, Ivan Buford, Juwon Carpenter, Khendil Jones,

Ontario Graham, Quanroyas Clendening, Michael Wallace, Jaquez Woods, Levi Brown, Cooper Owen, Kevon Kyles, Trevon Gaddes, Rally Pech, and Robert Lilly-Sneed; and

WHEREAS, this team of estimable athletes undoubtedly benefited from the vast knowledge and steadfast leadership of its head coach, Romie Reed; assistant coach, DeQuan Bond; player development coaches, Greg Young and Dontae Jones; manager, LaKendrick Covington; and team dad/driver, Doug Owen; and

WHEREAS, these young men from Stratford High School epitomize all that is good in today's student athletes, as they have achieved one of the highest levels of success and shown the highest degree of character both on and off the basketball court; and

WHEREAS, we find it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Spartans of Stratford High School for serving as examples of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the Stratford High School boys' basketball team on finishing as a semi-finalist in the TSSAA Class AA State Boys' Basketball Championship, applaud the team's tremendous athletic prowess, and extend to each member our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.